WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A source control system for a process control system, comprising:

a processor in a process control system;

an import function operable on said processor to import an object from an external source;

a validation function operable on said processor to determine whether said object is eligible for automatic check-in; and

a check-in function operable on said processor to be performed automatically upon import, including determining a version number for said object.

2. The system according to claim 1, wherein said object defines a control strategy.

3. The system according to claim 2, further comprising at least one controller capable of being loaded with said control strategy by said processor.

4. The system according to claim 3, further comprising at least one client in communication with said processor.

5. The system according to claim 4, wherein said control strategy is distributed from said processor to said at least one client.

6. The system according to claim 1, further comprising a database accessible by said processor to store said object.

7. A method of automatic check-in for a source control system in a process control system, comprising:

receiving an import request for an import object from an external source from a user;

validating said import request;

automatically checking-in said import object; and

providing an import status.

8. The method according to claim 7, wherein said validating said import request comprises:

determining if said import object already exists as an existing object in a source control system;

determining if said existing object has a status of checked-in;

determining if said user has permission to check-in; and

locking said status of said existing object.

9. The method according to claim 8, further comprising:

unlocking said status of said existing object, after said import object has been automatically checked-in.

10. The method according to claim 7, wherein said automatically checking-in said import object comprises:

determining if said import object already exists as an existing object in a source control system;

determining if a status of said existing object is locked;

determining a new version number for a new version of said existing object;

checking-in said import object as said new version using said new version number; and

storing a comment in said source control system indicating an automatic check-in for said new version.

11. The method according to claim 7, wherein determining said new version number for said new version comprises:

determining an existing version number of said existing object;

determining an import version number from said import object;

setting said new version number to a minor increment of said existing version number, if said import version number is equal to said existing version number;

setting said new version number to a major increment of said existing version number, if said import version number is less than said existing version number; and

setting said new version number to said import version number, if said import version number is greater than said existing version number.

12. The method according to claim 7, wherein said import object defines a control strategy.